

PUBLIC OPINION MONITORING at a glance

December 2020



Key findings:

 Despite encouraging news about vaccines, many citizens are sceptical towards taking a jab. The number of people refusing to be vaccinated is even on the rise.

In November, three major biotech firms announced positive results on their coronavirus vaccines, increasing hope for immunisation programmes across the world next year. Many recent surveys focused on these developments, investigating the preparedness of citizens to be vaccinated. Polls indicate that large portions of citizens are hesitant towards vaccination, and that reluctance is even increasing. Many respondents expressed safety concerns because of the speed with which these vaccines were developed. Many feel too little is known about possible side effects and therefore would not want to be amongst the first to be vaccinated. Another controversial subject is whether vaccination should be compulsory.

• Uncertainty and fear remain predominant feelings among citizens, as the second wave of the coronavirus hits many countries.

Findings with regard to the emotional status of citizens as assembled in this compilation are in line with Parliament's own <u>special opinion poll in times of COVID-19</u>: 'Uncertainty' remains the most common emotional status felt by European citizens (mentioned by 50% of respondents), followed by 'hope' (37%). However, an increasing number of people is expressing 'uncertainty', 'helplessness', 'fear', 'anger' or 'frustration'.

Ipsos' What Worries the World survey for instance finds a significant increase in concern about the Coronavirus in Sweden (+22), with unemployment currently being the second greatest cause for concern worldwide - after the virus itself - with Spain (60%) and Italy (59%) among the nations most concerned. Another Ipsos study finds that women's health has undergone the biggest deterioration in Europe, where the pandemic has hit hardest, affecting all aspects of women's health: physical, mental and social. A study by the University of Antwerp finds that the state of mind of students and people working in the horeca sector is most negatively affected by the renewed lockdown measures.

 Support for national and European measures vary from country to country as the pandemic has been evolving at different speeds and affecting unevenly the EU's Member States. Overall, support for strong lock-down measures seems to be dwindling.

In some countries, the satisfaction with government measures correlates with the acceptance of a COVID-19 vaccine. A study in the Czech Republic finds that as the age increases, the level of agreement with governmental measures also increases. In the middle age group (25–34 years), the highest disagreement can be noted. Several studies find that the EU has managed to increase its image with regard to the handling of the health crisis as compared to the early days of pandemic.

With this monthly newsletter, DG Communication's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit wishes to inform you about relevant and fresh public opinion insights and analysis focussing on multi-country surveys as well as on individual Member States. Every month we draw on available and published surveys, as well as the analysis of our team in close collaboration with other services within DG COMM, specifically Parliament's Liaison Office in all Member States. We welcome all comments and input to our work.

If you want to know more about what the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit can do for you in this time of crisis, please contact:

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Multi-country surveys

COVID-19 vaccine faces an increasingly hesitant public

https://www.kantar.com/inspiration/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine-faces-an-increasinaly-hesitant-public

- (...) Only a minority of the public across major economies will 'definitely' take a vaccine for coronavirus when it becomes available, Kantar research has found. The study, conducted after a vaccine presenting as 90% effective in stage three clinical trials was announced by Pfizer, also indicates an increasing hesitancy among the general population to commit to any new vaccine.
- (...) A study in the USA, UK, France Germany and Italy showed that while a **majority of people an all countries are at least likely to take the vaccine**, a much smaller percentage, ranging from just 21% in France to just 43% in the UK, said they would 'definitely' take the vaccine. Further, the **hesitancy to take a vaccine had increased** in every country since June 2020, when Kantar last asked the question.

Potential acceptance of COVID-19 vaccine

If a vaccination is made available to protect against Coronavirus (Covid-19), how likely would you be to get such a vaccination for yourself?

	<u> </u>	GB	#	USA	() Fi	rance	Ge	ermany		taly
	Nov 2020	June 2020								
Definitely	43%	50%	30%	47%	21%	29%	35%	39%	38%	43%
Probably	32%	28%	36%	23%	33%	30%	32%	28%	40%	31%
Sub-total Yes	75%	78%	66%	71%	54%	58%	67%	67%	78%	74%
Probably not	11%	9%	14%	10%	19%	14%	15%	11%	10%	9%
Definitely not	8%	5%	11%	9%	14%	10%	12%	12%	6%	8%
Sub-total No	19%	14%	25%	19%	32%	24%	27%	23%	16%	17%
Don't know	6%	8%	9%	11%	14%	18%	6%	10%	6%	9%

KANTAR

Base: 1,000 adults per country.

Due to rounding effect, totals may not add up to 100% and subtotals may differ from the sum of the pooled responses

(...). In 4 of the 5 countries a majority expressed **concern about the safety of vaccines** because of the speed with which they are developed and produced. This proportion rises to 69% in France. Germans express less concern (41%) than citizens of other countries. However, in addition to these 41%, 28% are unsure.

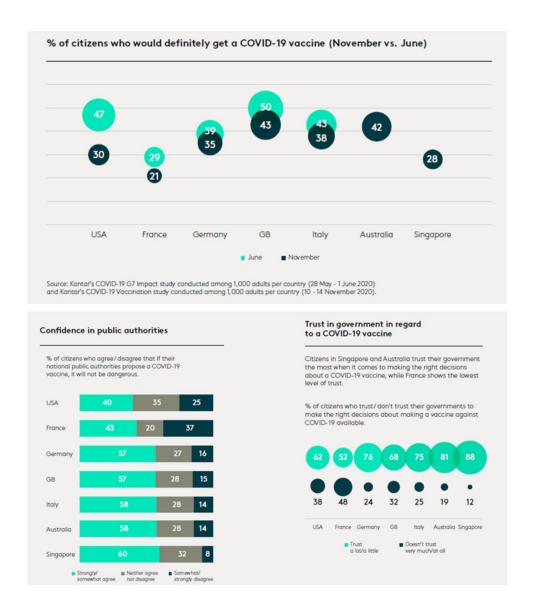
Trust in government also appears to be a factor in vaccine hesitancy. Germans trust their government the most – but even there, only one in three say they trust their government 'a lot' to 'make the right decisions about making a vaccine available'. France again has the lowest trust level

A total of 1,000 interviews were conducted between 10 and 14 November

People's potential acceptance of a COVID-19 vaccine

https://www.kantar.com/inspiration/coronavirus/infographic-public-opinion-about-covid-19-vaccination

(...) The infographic highlights some key differences between the seven countries surveyed, in terms of propensity to be vaccinated and trust in policy and in the pharmaceutical sector.

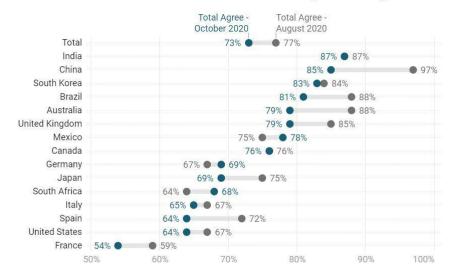


Fewer people say they would take a COVID-19 vaccine now than 3 months ago

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/11/fewer-people-say-they-would-take-a-covid-19-vaccine-now-than-3-months-ago https://www.ipsos.com/en/global-attitudes-covid-19-vaccine-october-2020

(...) this latest **World Economic Forum-Ipsos survey** (conducted between 8-15 October) shows that **confidence in taking a COVID-19 vaccine has dropped** since August, with fewer people globally saying they'd get one. The survey shows that on average, across 15 countries, 73% (down from 77%) of adults strongly or somewhat agree with the statement "if a vaccine for COVID-19 were available, I would get it".

If a vaccine for COVID-19 were available, I would get it



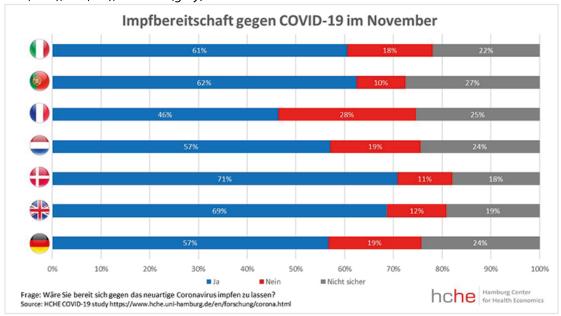
Base: 18,526 online adults aged 16-74 across 15 countries

Chart: Ipsos • Source: Global Advisor • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

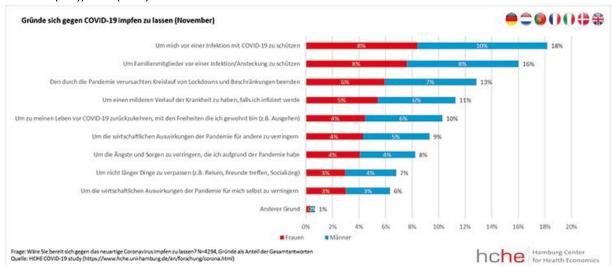
HCHE Covid-19 study (4th wave)

https://www.hche.uni-hamburg.de/forschung/corona.html

Would you be willing to be vaccinated against the novel Corona virus? *Yes (blue), No (red), Not sure (grey)*



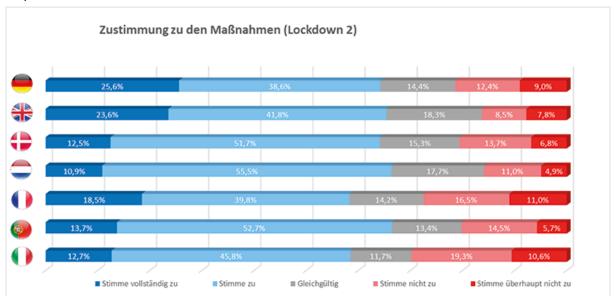
Reasons to be vaccinated Women (red), Men (blue)



- to protect myself for an infection (18%)
- to protect someone in my family for an infection (16%)
- to end the circle of lockdowns and measurements (13%)
- to have a milder course of the disease in case I get infected (11%)
- to get back to my former lifestyle with all the liberties (f.e. to go out) (10%)
- to reduce the economic consequences of others of the pandemic (9%)
- to reduce fears and sorrow I have because of the pandemic (8%)
- to not miss out on anything anymore (f.e. travel, meet friends, socialise) (7%)
- to reduce the economic consequences of myself of the pandemic (9%)
- other (1%)

Approval towards measurements (Lockdown 2)

Totally agree (dark blue), Agree (light blue), Indifferent (grey), Disagree (light red), Totally disagree (dark red)

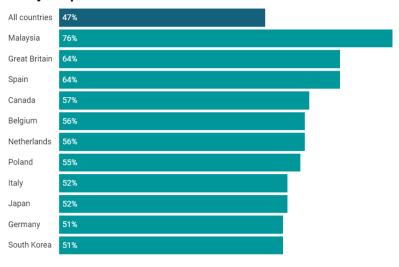


What Worries the World?": COVID-19 is the biggest concern for the eighth successive month

https://www.ipsos.com/en/what-worries-world-november-2020

Ipsos' What Worries the World survey tracks public opinion on the most important social and political issues across 27 countries today. According to the November edition, 47% of the respondents worldwide say **Coronavirus is one of the biggest issues facing their country today**.





Research among adults aged 16-64 in 27 participating countries. c. 20,000 per month. (November 2020). Source: Global Advisor • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

Moreover, a significant increase in concern about Coronavirus has been noted in Sweden (+22). Scores are also up in Belgium (+15), Italy (+14), Hungary (+14), and France (+10).

Unemployment is currently the second greatest worry worldwide with Spain (60%) and Italy (59%) among the nations most concerned.

Globally, 36% think their country is heading in the **right direction** while 64% say things are on the **wrong track**. The biggest recent change on this measure is seen in Poland, where a 13-point increase from last month makes it the least optimistic nation of all 27 today, with 87% saying that things in their country are on the wrong track. France also scored highly, with 80% saying things are on the wrong track. Meanwhile, more than three-quarters of the public in Belgium (79%), and Spain (77%) also take a pessimistic view about where their country is heading.

The European Project in 2020

https://www.ipsos.com/en/european-project-2020 https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/ct/news/documents/2020-11/the-european-project-in-2020-report.pdf

The European Project in 2020 survey, carried out by Ipsos' online platform 'Global Advisor' between 25 September - 9 October, provides insights into **EU citizens' views of the European Union**. It focuses on three key aspects: the past and present direction of the EU, the EU's impact in the world and the necessity for its Member States to act together and **the EU's role in the handling of Coronavirus**.

Has the European project made Europe stronger or weaker today than it would have been without it?

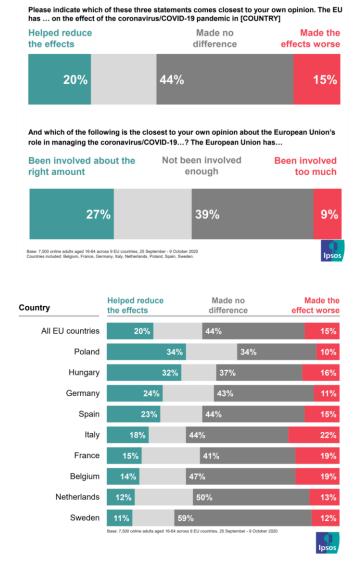
(...) Almost half of Europeans surveyed (47%) believe Europe has been made stronger by the European Union. Almost two in five (42%) say the same about their own country. (...) The proportion of Europeans that believe the EU is heading in the wrong direction has continued to fall over the last three years, with 29% saying it is on the right track. (...)

How can the European Union impact the world by acting together?

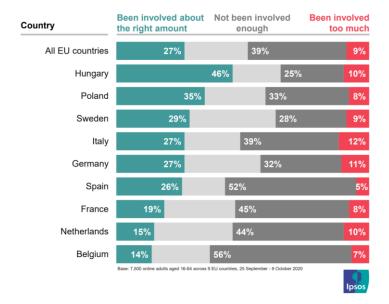
Nearly half of respondents agree that together the countries of the European Union have more influence on the rest of the world (46% - drop from 51% in 2017) and are stronger in solving global problems (47%). (...)

Has the European Union been able to make a difference in handling the Coronavirus?

A fifth (20%) of respondents say that the EU has helped reduce the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic in their country, whilst just over one in four (27%) hold the opinion that it has helped manage the crisis. However, roughly two in five think the EU has either made no difference to the impact (44%) or not been involved enough (39%). The eastern European nations of Poland and Hungary are most positive about the EU's response to the pandemic, whilst France, Sweden, the Netherlands and Belgium are the least impressed by the impact of the EU's involvement during the pandemic. Italy, the first country in the EU to suffer a serious outbreak, has the highest proportion of those who believe the EU has made the effects worse, closely followed by France and Belgium.



Q: And which of the following is the closest to your own opinion about the European Union's role in managing the coronavirus/COVID19...? The European Union has...



Europeans approved of EU's handling of COVID-19 this summer – but much has changed since

https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/11/17/europeans-approved-of-eus-handling-of-covid-19-this-summer-but-much-has-changed-since/

https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2020/11/17/majorities-in-the-european-union-have-favorable-views-of-the-bloc/

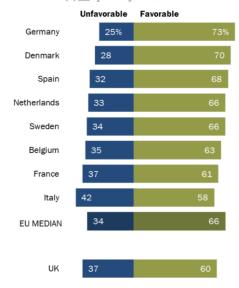
- (...) Most people in **eight EU countries** thought their own country and the bloc as a whole had done a good job dealing with the pandemic, according to a **Pew Research Center** survey conducted between **June 10 and August 3**, 2020.
- (...) In the summer, when new COVID-19 cases were relatively contained, around **half or more in eight EU countries approved of their own nation's response to the virus**. More than half of adults in every EU member nation surveyed said their country had done a good job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak, ranging from a low of 54% in Spain to a high of 95% in Denmark. (...)

Most people in the surveyed countries **approved of how the EU was handling COVID-19.** As of August, half or more in every country surveyed said the EU had done a good job handling the outbreak, including around two-thirds or more in Germany (68%), Denmark (68%), the Netherlands (66%) and Spain (65%). Spaniards, in fact, were more approving of the EU's response than of their own country's (65% vs. 54%).

(...) Across the EU countries surveyed, people who were optimistic about their national economy were also more likely to approve of the bloc's COVID-19 response. While fewer than half of adults in every surveyed country expected their national economy to get better over the ensuing 12 months, those who expected improvement were significantly more likely to say the EU had done a good job handling COVID-19, and to have more favorable views of the bloc overall. (...)

Majorities of EU countries and UK had a favorable view of EU in summer 2020

% who have a(n) ___ opinion of the EU



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

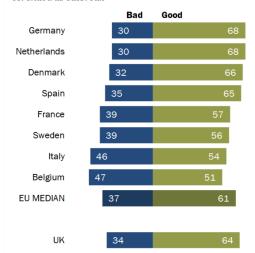
Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey conducted June 10-Aug. 3, 2020. Q8d.

"Majorities in the European Union Have Favorable Views of the Bloc"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Majorities in most countries said EU had done a good job handling COVID-19 when polled over the summer

% who say the EU has done a $__$ job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak



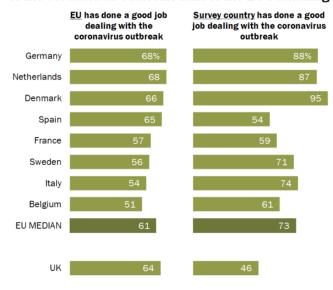
Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey conducted June 10-Aug. 3, 2020. Q10d.

"Majorities in the European Union Have Favorable Views of the Bloc"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Many approved more of their own country's handling of the coronavirus outbreak than of the EU's handling



Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey conducted June 10-Aug. 3, 2020. Q10c-d. "Majorities in the European Union Have Favorable Views of the Bloc"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

In the summer, most had positive views of the EU and its response to COVID-19

EU h dealing	<u>Favorable</u> opinion of EU	
Germany	68%	73%
Netherlands	68	66
Denmark	66	70
Spain	65	68
France	57	61
Sweden	56	66
Italy	54	58
Belgium	51	63
EU MEDIAN	61	66
UK	64	60

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey conducted June 10-Aug. 3, 2020, 08d & 10d.

"Majorities in the European Union Have Favorable Views of the Bloc"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Majority (67%) of global citizens support the closing of their borders as few (33%) believe Covid-19 is contained

https://www.ipsos.com/en/majority-67-global-citizens-support-closing-their-borders-few-33-believe-covid-19-contained

A majority of global citizens support border closures in an effort to combat COVID-19, as relatively few believe the coronavirus is contained, according to new **Ipsos** polling conducted on behalf of the **Halifax International Security Forum**. The poll of over 21,000 people in 28 countries, conducted between **August 21st and September 4th, 2020**, reveals that most global citizens are supportive of turning more insular in order to fight the virus at home.

- (...) Some country's residents (mostly in Europe) are much less likely to agree with the closure of their borders, including those in the Netherlands (44%), Sweden (47%), Germany (50%), Belgium (52%) and Hungary (56%) and Poland (57%).
- (...) Given the difficult economic issues in their country today, eight in ten (78%) global citizens agrees that their country needs to focus less on the world and more at home, (...) Those in Germany (65%, +4), Sweden (66%, no change), Italy (67%, +2) and the Netherlands (69%, +13) are less likely to believe their country should do this.

Covid-19, a long-term threat to women's physical and mental health

https://www.ipsos.com/en/covid-19-long-term-threat-womens-physical-and-mental-health

lpsos reveals the results of a second study conducted in 8 countries (France, Germany, Italy, Spain among them) among women on the impact of Covid-19. The data was collected online in October 16-29.

(...) Overall, women's health has deteriorated during the crisis - the **biggest deterioration has been in Europe**, where the pandemic has hit hardest. All aspects of women's health have been affected: physical, mental and social. More than **two out of three women feel anxious or worried**; more than half report sleep disturbances.



National surveys

The Coronavirus pandemic remains the hottest topic among this month's surveys and studies in the EU. Although many angles of the pandemic are tackled in the studies (e.g. approval the EU's or national governments' handling of the pandemic), the common thread this time is **citizens'** attitudes towards vaccination against Covid-19.

A recent study from Kantar conducted in the USA, UK, France Germany and Italy showed that while a majority of people an all countries are at least likely to take the vaccine, a much smaller percentage, ranging from just 21% in France to just 43% in the UK, said they would 'definitely' take the vaccine. The hesitancy to take a vaccine has increased in every country since June 2020.

This hesitancy is also present in other **EU countries**, as observed in a number of studies. In a survey conducted in spring in Austria, almost half of respondents expressed the intention to be vaccinated as soon as possible, while one third expressed their disapproval. This ratio was reversed in October with 49% rejecting the vaccination and 34% willing to be vaccinated. In Bulgaria, 43% of respondents would like to be vaccinated against 48% who would not. In **Czechia**, a bit more than a third of the population would be vaccinated, while in **France** 48% do not plan to get the vaccination and 63% are opposed to a mandatory vaccination. In **Germany**, while 53% of those over 16 years of age who were asked are planning a vaccination against the virus, only 42% want to have their children vaccinated. In Greece, 28% would certainly get the vaccination, while 15% would probably get it and 29% would once they are sure there are no side effects. In **Hungary**, 50% of respondents would not like to or are not planning to get the vaccine against the Coronavirus. In **Italy** respondents are more likely to say the vaccination should optional (54%) or obligatory (42%) and 40.5% think the vaccine will be available soon and are willing to take it. In **Latvia** 47% of respondents would be ready to get the vaccination while 40% would not. In **Lithuania**, the same share of respondents would get the vaccination or would not (both 43%), while over half of **Poles** are opposed to it. The number of **Spaniards** who would not immediately take the vaccine after the release of the COVID-19 vaccine has raised from 43.8% up to 47% in just month. Finally, in **Sweden** respondents are likely to take the vaccine once it becomes available to the public: 61 % say they would take it and 25 % would not.

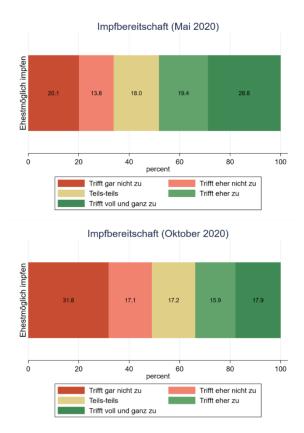
Evidently, and although this newsletter does not cover all EU Member States, there is a clear hesitancy among Europeans whether to take the vaccination when it becomes available.

Austria

The erosion of vaccination preparedness in the Austrian population

https://viecer.univie.ac.at/corona-blog/corona-blog-beitraege/blog87/

When the first media reports on the development of vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 made the rounds in spring 2020, the willingness of the Austrian population to be vaccinated quickly was surveyed by the Austrian Corona Panel. The result was that almost **half of them expressed the intention to be vaccinated as soon as possible**, while one third expressed their disapproval. This **ratio was reversed in October**: 49% rejected vaccination, 34% would be vaccinated (see Figure 1).



[...] The analysis has shown that **vaccination preparedness depends on individual and societal factors**. Low risk perception, lower age, the perception of low social cohesion, being female and a politically more right-wing basic attitude are factors that contribute to vaccination scepticism. However, it is not so much these dimensions as the perception of government policy that is driving the decline in vaccination coverage. It is the **declining satisfaction with the government that correlates with the declining willingness to be vaccinated**. [...]

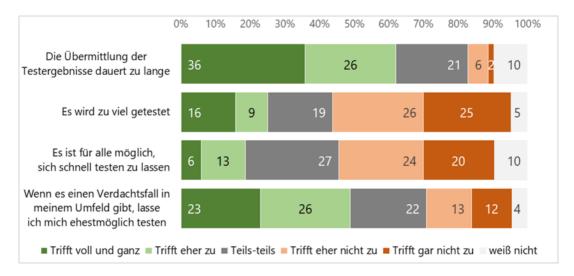
How the current corona test strategy is assessed: still too slow, still too little https://viecer.univie.ac.at/corona-blog/corona-blog-beitraege/blog88/

(...) As late as October 2020, the perception prevails that the transmission of corona test results "takes too long" (62% is fully/always true), while hardly anyone contradicts this statement (only about 8%, with 10% not knowing). [...]

Despite all the testing, the predominant opinion among the respondents is that there is currently **not "too much testing"** (approx. 51% reject this statement). Nevertheless, just under 25% support this statement, i.e. in reverse: one quarter would tend to prefer fewer tests. [...]

In the survey (October 2020), the **possibility "for everyone to be tested quickly" is still considered largely inadequate,** with only just under 19% of respondents agreeing with this statement, whereas around 37%, i.e. more than a third, are uncertain about it (partly or not sure) and 44% tend to disagree with it (see Figure 1). An example of a quick and free option are the "test roads" recently made available in Vienna. In fact, Viennese* (26% vs. 17%) tend to think that it would be possible. [...]

It may be unclear whether a test itself should be carried out in the case of a so-called "suspected case". Just under half (49%) of all those questioned would hypothetically have themselves tested for coronavirus infection in their personal environment if there was a suspected case. In each case, one quarter are uncertain (26% partially or do not know) or consider this reaction less necessary in suspected cases (25%). [...]



Belgium

UAnvers study: The state of mind of students and staff of the hospitality sector at its lowest <a href="https://www.lalibre.be/belgique/societe/chez-le-personnel-horeca-et-les-etudiants-le-mental-est-au-plus-bas-la-plupart-des-gens-sont-actuellement-au-pire-niveau-de-la-premiere-vaque-5fb3a8be9978e20e7059d751

The state of mind of students and staff of the hospitality sector seem to be even lower than in the first wave. (...) "Most people are currently at the **worst level of the first wave**", explains researcher Philippe Beutels from UAnvers. "Looking at the age categories, we find that young people between the ages of 16 and 25 continue to struggle."

Bulgaria

Gallup International: New measures are rather approved

https://www.gallup-international.bg/44146/the-new-measures-are-rather-approved/

The **newly introduced measures** against coronavirus in Bulgaria are more supportive. The majority in their favour is not large, but it is still there. **56% support them**, 42% do not, and there are some who are hesitant. Probably, the considerable fears due to the alarming official statistics also play a role.

Obviously, the measures are able to bring some reassurance. From the point of view of public opinion, the measures are obviously coming on time, because in recent months the society seems to have come up with the idea of new, stricter measures on its own. In the summer, for example, a majority of more than 60% opposed the toughening of measures, despite growing cases. By the beginning of November, however, the opinions "for" and "against" the hardening of the measures were already divided equally. Without a special majority in support of hardening, this still showed that the serious numbers of newly infected, as well as examples from abroad, make Bulgarians "get used to the idea" that a new tightening is a matter of time.

[...] It, in turn, stems from the uncertainty of when to expect the end of the crisis. When directly asked about the **expectations** in this direction, **the largest accumulation (32%) is in the option "more than one year"**. The hope of 25% is that the crisis will subside by spring, 16% choose "by summer", 3% allow the end to be in the fall, and 9% - at the end of 2021. The rest admit that they can not determine. This is a serious sobering up from the beginning of the summer, when about 60% believed that there would be a normalization by the end of the year. With the growth of cases later in the summer, this share dropped to about a third in July. [...]

The uncertainty means that opinions are divided even on the issue of vaccines: to the question "Would you **be vaccinated** against Covid when there is an approved vaccine?", **"Yes" say 43%, but 48% say "no"**. The others hesitate. Here, however, one should not rush to conclusions. Against the background of the usually vaccinated in our country a few percent, the share of 43% readiness in principle is not small. The answers probably reflect social desirability, but still more than two out of every five is not a small frequency.

Gallup International: Attitudes towards the coronavirus situation

https://www.gallup-international.bg/44133/%d0%b0ttitudes-towards-the-coronavirus-situation-12-15-november/

The latest Gallup International's survey shows, that 23.8% of Bulgarians felt that "Coronavirus is a deadly danger to humanity and one of the most terrible things that people have experienced", while **53.2% stated, that the coronavirus is dangerous, but just as a strong flu**. 21.1% believe that the coronavirus is not a serious danger.

In mid-November, **44.4% agreed** (totally - 15.5%; rather - 26.9%) **that the government was doing well with the coronavirus situation**. 54% disagreed (rather - 29.5%; totally - 24.5%). 53.8% thought Bulgaria is doing relatively well compared to many other countries. 37.5% were on the different opinion.

According to the survey, **people are not as afraid for the economic situation and their finances as at the beginning of the crisis**. 6.9% said they have already lost their job, another 4.3% find an immediate risk of losing their job. 18.6% of the respondents have not lost their jobs, but their incomes have decreased significantly and 15.6% are expecting a decrease in their incomes, although they remain employed.

76.5% of the respondents believe that the **Bulgarian authorities could have been better prepared** during the summer months. However, a large majority (65.5%) which believes that the **health authorities are making serious efforts**. 76.2% fear that they may not be able to rely on the health system when needed and 54.3% agree that there is a shortage of medicines. At the same time, 76.9% are convinced that the media is creating unnecessary panic in society.

Trend survey: Attitudes of Bulgarians against the spread of COVID-19 rctrend.ba

At the beginning of November nearly half of Bulgarians were of the opinion that **measures against the spread of COVID-19 are sufficient**. 30% of Bulgarians believe that measures should be stricter. A similar percentage share was reported in April. In May, however, only 11% wanted tougher measures.

The situation across the country is extremely complicated. Nevertheless, only 12% of Bulgarians believe that citizens should be banned from leaving their home except for going to a shop, pharmacy or work. This measure in April was supported by 55% of Bulgarians", the research center explains. There has been a decrease in support for closing all restaurants, bars, gyms and other places where more people gather. 36% of people supported this measure in November, while in April this share was 82%.

In November, **Bulgarians feel more secure about their jobs than in the spring**. Lower levels of concern among Bulgarians are recorded concerning shortages of food products, home supplies, medicines and fuels compared to April. There has been an increase in the share of people who are left with no savings.

Trend has added also a question on vaccination and **26% of Bulgarians say they will get vaccinated** and 45% do not share this opinion.

The second part of the survey, published on 24/11, is focused on conspiracy theories. **40% of Bulgarians are of the opinion that coronavirus is a biological weapon** created in order to reduce the population on Earth. Just over a third believe COVID-19 is no more dangerous than seasonal flu. According to half of the Bulgarians (52%), coronavirus is a synthetically created disease. 45% are of the opinion that there is a vaccine, but it is kept in secret to let the disease spread even wider and pharmaceutical companies to make profit.

16% of Bulgarians think that through the **vaccine chips will be implanted** on people to control them. In April, 22% believed in that. According to 17%, COVID-19 does not exist and this is a global scam (with 23% in June). Some 10% agree with the theory that coronavirus is spread via 5G technology, while 53% do not support that.

Czechia

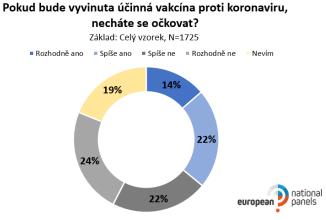
Most Czechs do not want to be vaccinated against COVID-19!

www.nationalpandemicalarm.eu

https://www.stemmark.cz/national-pandemic-alarm-vetsina-cechu-se-nechce-nechat-ockovat-proti-covid-19/

Representative survey monitoring public opinion, emotions and experience with novelty Corona virus spread in five Central European countries.

Slightly more than a third of the population would be vaccinated against the new coronavirus: If an effective coronavirus vaccine is developed, men are significantly more willing to be vaccinated than women. On the contrary, among women, resentment or indecision about vaccination resonates more.



Zdroj: National Pandemic Alarm, obecná populace ČR/SR/BG/HU/PL 15+, **30. 10. 2020**

Most Czechs agree with the new government measures: Two-thirds of people are currently in favor of new government regulations concerning the closure of retail sales, services and restrictions on free movement and the introduction of work from home. 24% agree with all regulations, 40% with most of them. As the age increases, the level of agreement with all measures also increases; in the middle age group (25–34 years), the highest disagreement with the introduction of measures is evident.

People are afraid of the coming economic or financial crisis: The very challenging situation of the spread of COVID-19 disease affected both everyday life and at the same time the functioning of society and the functioning of the state economy as a whole. As a result of the impact of the pandemic on social life, Czechs are most worried about the coming economic or financial crisis (35% are very worried. Czechs are also concerned about the education of children and the young generation (37% are very worried), or the lack of doctors, for example due to their infection or ordered quarantine (31%). Respondents are least concerned about filling hospital beds with COVID-19-positive patients (26%) or a large increase in unemployment in the Czech Republic (I am very worried about 26%). In all cases, women are much more sceptical than men.

Christmas during the coronavirus? Czechs don't want to limit visits to family and friends

Survey conducted by Median exclusively for iRozhlas.cz

Some people are ready to be modest before Christmas this year. (...) 37 percent of respondents are going to spend less on holidays than last year. On the contrary more than half of respondents are unwilling to limit visits to their loved ones at Christmas.

Rozhodně ano

Ano 43 %

nad 60 let

ano očkování

VŠ

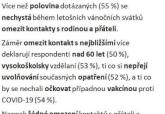
přes dvě pětiny lidí omezí kvůli pandemii kontakty s rodinou a přáteli během letošních vánočních svátků

Ne 55 %

18-29 let

ne očkování

Rozhodně ne



Naopak **žádné omezení** kontaktů s přáteli a rodinou nepředpokládá nejmladší sledovaná věková kohorta **18-29 let** (64 %), a ti co by **odmítli očkování** (64 %).



According to Median, most Czechs do not want to limit their time during the annual visits of relatives and friends. "55 percent of respondents do not expect to limit contacts with friends and family. They are more people under the age of 18 to 29," says Přemysl Čech, director of Median, for Radiožurnál.

France

Les Français et la vaccination

https://www.bva-group.com/sondages/francais-vaccination-contre-covid-19-sondage-bva-europe-1/

60% des Français déclarent vouloir se faire vacciner contre le Covid-19 lorsqu'un vaccin sera disponible, mais seulement 20% envisagent de le faire dès que possible, tandis que 40% préfèrent attendre et ne pas le faire « tout de suite ».

40% déclarent en revanche ne pas avoir l'intention de se faire vacciner du tout, notamment les jeunes de moins de 35 ans (56%), les employés et ouvriers (55%) et les sympathisants du Rassemblement national (56%).

64% approuvent les mesures annoncées par le Président de la République,

https://elabe.fr/allocution-macron-241120/

Le principe du déconfinement progressif (79%), et de manière générale les mesures annoncées par le président de la République (64%) sont bien accueillis par les Français.

La confiance en l'exécutif pour lutter efficacement contre l'épidémie poursuit sa progression et atteint 48% (+4 points en une semaine, +13 depuis début octobre).

Mais ils doutent de la capacité de ce déconfinement progressif à être plus efficace que le premier déconfinement pour éviter une reprise de l'épidémie (50% oui, 48% non).

Vaccination : 48% ne comptent pas se faire vacciner (un refus plus élevé chez les femmes, les 25-64 ans, les professions intermédiaires et catégories populaires et les électeurs de J-L. Mélenchon et de M. Le Pen), contre 37% qui l'envisagent et 15% qui ne savent pas encore. La proportion de réfractaires continue de progresser (+2 en une semaine, +8 en un mois).

63% des Français sont opposés à la vaccination obligatoire.

Réaction des Français aux annonces d'Emmanuel Macron et à l'allègement du confinement,

https://harris-interactive.fr/opinion_polls/reaction-des-francais-aux-annonces-demmanuel-macron-et-a-lallegement-du-confinement/

67% des Français ayant suivi la prise de parole ont trouvé Emmanuel Macron convaincant dans le cadre de son allocution, soit sensiblement la même proportion que celle identifiée à l'annonce du 2 ème confinement. Par ailleurs, les intentions de vaccination ne changent pas. À peine plus d'un Français sur deux affirme qu'il a l'intention de se faire vacciner (52%, dont 18% certainement).

Germany

Only 53 percent of Germans want to be vaccinated against corona

https://www.rnd.de/politik/umfrage-zur-corona-impfung-nur-53-prozent-der-deutschen-wollen-sich-impfen-lassen-JRWA6EIKXZBAFLFQJWSC5AE3GA.html

Just over **half the population is willing to be vaccinated against coronavirus**. This is the result of a survey by the health insurance company Barmer, which is available to the RedaktionsNetzwerk Deutschland (RND).

While **53 per cent** of those over 16 years of age who were asked **are planning a vaccination against the virus**, only 42 per cent want to have their children vaccinated. (...) 15 percent said they might want to be vaccinated, 9 percent "rather not" and 13 percent "definitely not". 10 percent of those questioned were undecided.

As a **motive for vaccination**, 69% of those who wanted to be vaccinated said that they wanted to protect themselves as much as possible. 62 percent said they wanted to protect others. 32 percent stated that they wanted a vaccination because the corona restrictions were a burden to them. Multiple answers to the reasons were possible. Several reasons could also be given for why people do not want to be vaccinated against the corona virus.

Of these, 68 percent expressed **doubts about the safety of the vaccines**. Too many **side effects are feared** by 60 percent of those who refuse a vaccination. Slightly more than one in five (22%) of those who were not prepared to vaccinate said they did not think much of vaccination. [...]

Majority wants to restrict Christmas visits

https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/deutschlandtrend-2413.html

Many German citizens want to avoid visiting relatives on Christmas holidays. However, there are clear differences between West and East Germany.

Just under three-quarters of Germans (73 percent) plan to limit contacts with their families and visits during the Christmas holidays at least somewhat. The reason for this is the continuing high number of infections in Germany.

28 per cent of those surveyed would like to restrict visits to relatives somewhat, another 28 per cent strongly and 17 per cent very strongly. Just under a quarter (23 percent) are currently not planning to reduce contact over Christmas due to corona conditions. While 78 percent in West Germany are planning to restrict contacts, the figure is 58 percent in East Germany. [...]

Greece

Alco poll for OpenTV

https://www.in.gr/2020/11/12/politics/dimoskopisi-ti-lene-oi-polites-gia-ta-nea-metra-diafora-anamesa-se-nd-kai-syriza/

A decreasing share of respondents are **satisfied with the way the government is handling the pandemic** (43% are satisfied, -11pp since October). 65% believe the government was late in its actions to face the second wave of the pandemic.

Kappa research poll for ethos.gr newsite, published 19 November 2020 https://www.thetoc.gr/Content/RelatedFiles/2a/2a7d1b0c963749b6a6940cf8eba58f22.pdf

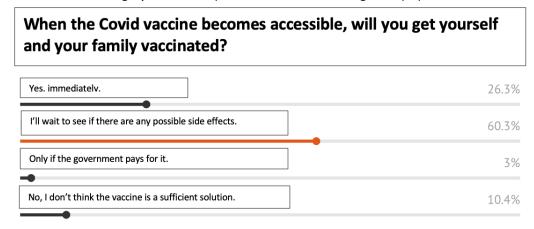
36% of respondents have a **positive view of the way the EU** is handling the pandemic, a 24pp increase since April. Respondents are somewhat confident on the way the pandemic is being controlled in Greece: 42% think it is probably under control, while 48% say it is under control. The three issues worrying people most are health / health of my familiy (61%), personal financial situation (46%) and issues affecting the country as a whole (43%). 28% would certainly get the vaccination, while 15% would probably get it and 29% would once they are sure there are no side effects. 25% would probably or certainly not get the vaccination.

Hungary

November poll by the HVG newspaper

https://hvg.hu/itthon/20201102 covid felmeres november

This opinion poll was carried out at the beginning of November, before the new lockdown rules were introduced in Hungary. It is not representative to the Hungarian population.

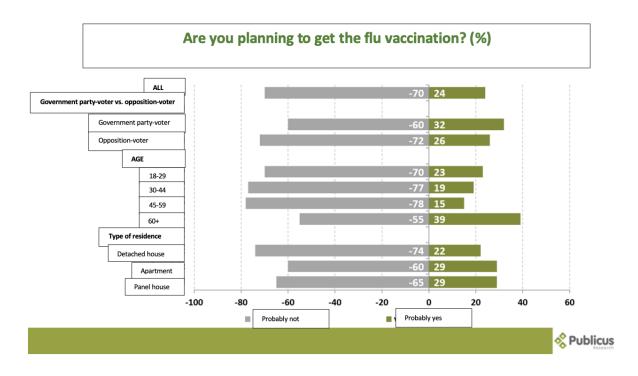


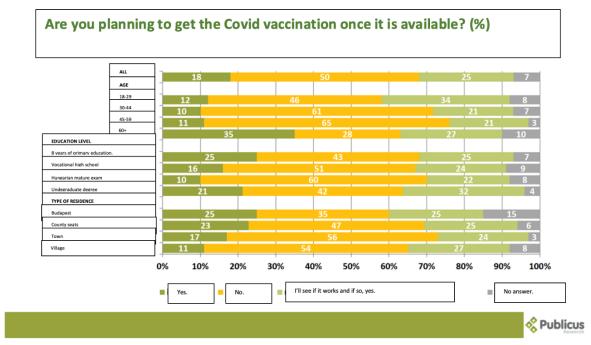
Half of the respondents would not get the vaccine

https://publicus.hu/blog/koronavirus-a-valaszadok-fele-nem-adatna-be-maganak-a-covid-elleni-vedooltast/

According to the Publicus Institute research, conducted in September, **18% of the respondents are planning to get the vaccine** when it becomes available. Further 25% would like to wait and see if the vaccine works. If so, they would like to get it too. **50% would not like to/not planning to get it.**

20





The population was not surprised by the new COVID restrictions, imposed by government.

https://www.ipsos.com/hu-hu/nem-erte-varatlanul-lakossagot-az-ujabb-szigoritas

The results of the October IPSOS survey confirm that the Hungarian population is serious about the protective measures against COVID-19. (...)

There are three types of behaviours described in Hungary:

- The one who is isolating: This type of behaviour is typical for 31% of the population. They adopt to the new situation created by the pandemic, and they do not question the advised strategies for

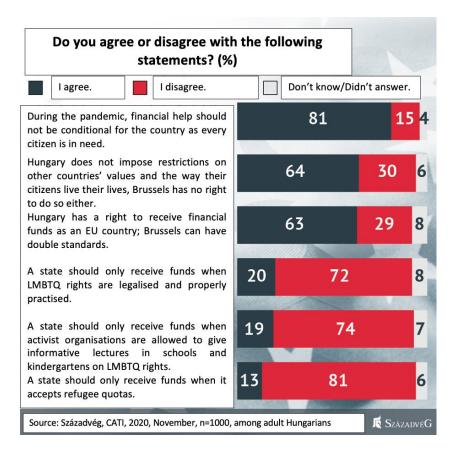
protection. Women are overrepresented within this group, also the ones attending higher education, having a higher status within society and the ones who are over 40.

- **The daredevil:** This type of behaviour is at the other end of the spectrum. Even though they typically wear a mask, other types of protections are used below average by this group. For example, 90% still uses public transport, 49% washes their hand frequently and 24% avoid handshakes. There is an increased number of people in these groups who have only 8 years of primary education, having worse financial situation than the average and living in the countryside.
- **The balancer:** This group respects hygiene rules (wearing a mask or washing hands frequently), however they do not avoid and give up close contacts and holidays. Furthermore, they allow their kids to attend community events. 8% avoid attending public events, 10% avoid international holidays, 8% avoid national holidays and 78% is not willing to avoid close contacts. Within the group, over 60 year-old people and people living in Budapest are overrepresented.

Hungarians reject the idea of introducing the rule of law conditionality during the pandemic

https://szazadveg.hu/hu/kutatasok/az-alapitvany-kutatasai/piackutatas-kozvelemeny-kutatas/a-magyarok-elutasitjak-hogy-brusszel-jarvany-idejen-feltetelekhez-kosse-a-gazdasagi-segitseget

According to the Századvég's poll, 81% believes that it would not be appropriate to introduce during the pandemic the rule of law conditionality because many people are depended on EU funding in Hungary. 15% did not agree with the above statement.



Italy

One in six Italians will refuse to be vaccinated

https://www.corriere.it/cronache/20 novembre 18/vaccino-covid-un-italiano-sei-rifiutera-farsi-vaccinare-4dbfdb82-2924-11eb-92be-ccd547aa4d2b.shtml

According to the Ipsos survey, one in six Italians say they will not get a coronavirus vaccine if it is available next year, and 42 percent said they will wait until they better understand its effectiveness. Only roughly a third of the sample surveyed said they "would certainly get it as soon as possible."

54% of Italians believe that the vaccinations should not be an obligation

http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

EMG Acqua, Fieldwork: 24/11/2020

Vaccination against covid-19...

will have to be optional for all	54%
will have to be obligatory for all	42%
less prudent:	4%

A majority of Italians are concerned about the future

http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

EMG Acqua, Fieldwork: 17/11/2020

Which emotional status best describes this pandemic phase?

Fear for the future	39%
Hope	18%
Anxiety	16%
Rage	13%
Frustration	8%
Confidence	4%
I prefer not to answer	2%

Do you think that the measures (at local and national level) are effective against the infection?

No	44%
Yes	36%
I prefer not to answer	20%

Thinking of the next months, from an economic point of view you are...

Pessimistic	74%
Optimistic	23%
I prefer not to answer	3%

Most Italians are afraid of contracting the virus: one in four also believes that a vaccination would be soon available and would use it.

http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

Termometro Politico, 10-12/11//2020

Do you think that a vaccination against COVID-19 will be available soon? Would you use it?

Yes, I believe that it will be available soon and I will use it	40.5%
Yes, I believe that it will be available but I will not use it	15.2%
No, I do not think that it will be available, but if it was I would use it	23.1%

No, I do not think that it will be available and in any case I would not use it 16.5%

Today you are more concerned of

Entering into contact with the virus (myself or a member of my family)	60.6%
having problems with the work or with my economic situation	25.1%
I am not concerned, I feel relaxed	10.2%
I do not know/no answer	4.1%

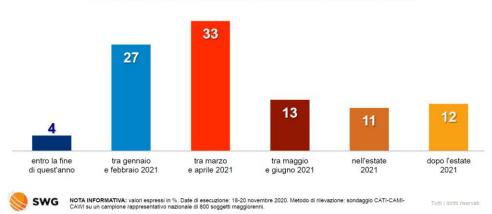
Thinking of your country (Italy), in the next weeks, months what will be more frightening...?

The health emergency 48.8% The economic and job context 45.6%

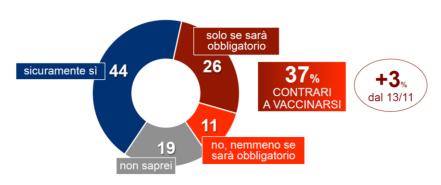
One third of respondents believe that the vaccination will be ready by March-April 2021. The share of Italians who would not been in favour of vaccination is increasing (37%, +3) https://www.swa.it/

SWG, 18-20/11/2020

Secondo lei, in Italia, quando saranno disponibili le prime dosi del vaccino per il Covid-19?



Quando sarà pronto il vaccino contro il Covid-19, lei si sottoporrà alla vaccinazione?



SWG

SWGNOTA INFORMATIVA: valori espressi in %. Date di esecuzione: 18-20 novembre 2020. Metodo di rilevazione: sondaggio CATI-CAMI-CAWI su un campione rappresentativo nazionale di 800 soggetti maggiorenni.

Tutti i diritti riservati

Latvia

Geminus poll: 47% of Latvians would be ready to get vaccinated against Covid-19 https://www.tvnet.lv/7098432/aptauja-47-latvijas-iedzivotaju-butu-gatavi-vakcineties-pret-covid-19

If there was a Covid-19 vaccine available in Latvia, 47% of questioned respondents would be ready to get it. Meanwhile, 40% of respondents say they wouldn't get vaccinated

The poll was conducted by Internet research company Geminus from 20 till 21 October among questioning 2779 respondents.

Latvians are confronted with Covid-19 more often, but perceive it less seriously https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/aptauja-latvija-ar-covid-19-saskaras-ciesak-uztver--nenopietnak.a382369/

The SKDS poll, conducted in November among 1000 respondents, shows that 22,5% of respondents know someone from their closest environment who had Covid-19. Still, 28% say it is not more serious than "ordinary flu" and 31% claim that Covid-19 is politicians' and media's bubble, not a real problem. These results show that respondents in Latvia take the virus more lightly than they did in the first wave.

Kantar TNS poll: 48% of Latvians think that the country does not need stricter Covid-19 restrictions

https://skaties.lv/zinas/latvija/sabiedriba/aptauja-48-iedzivotaju-uzskata-latvija-nav-nepieciesami-stingraki-covid-19-ierobezojumi

48% of respondents think that Latvia does not need stricter Covid-19 restrictions, compared to 44% who think that Latvia would indeed need stricter Covid-19 restrictions.

Lithuania

Vilmorus poll: Lithuanians with higher income are more determined to get vaccinated https://www.lrt.lt/naujienos/lietuvoje/2/1260774/apklausa-parode-nuo-koronaviruso-skiepytusi-tik-kas-antras-lietuvis

Market and Opinion Research Centre "Vilmorus" interviewed 1001 Lithuanians on 9–18 October about their behaviour if a coronavirus vaccine would be accessible.

Lithuanians with higher income are more determined to get vaccinated. The survey revealed that 42.9% of the respondents would be inclined to get a coronavirus vaccine. Among these, 16.6% would definitely get vaccinate and 26.6% said they would most probably do that. Almost the same part of respondents - 42.5% - said they would not get vaccinated. Among these, 18.2% stated they would probably not get the vaccine and 24.4% were certain about it. The remaining 14.7% had no opinion.

Poland

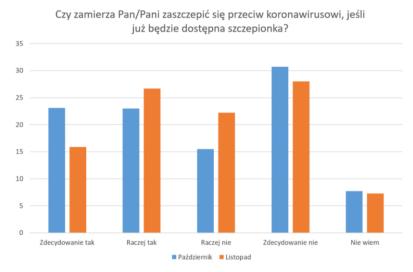
Over 50 pct of Poles sceptical about Covid vaccinations

https://www.thefirstnews.com/article/over-50-pct-of-poles-sceptical-about-covid-vaccinations-17673

Over half of Poles oppose taking a Covid-19 vaccine, according to a United Surveys poll run on November 13. 50.2 percent said they did not want to take the vaccine, with 28 percent "decidedly" and 22.2 percent "rather" against the idea.

Forty two percent said they planned to vaccinate themselves, including 26.7 percent "decidedly" and 15.8 percent "rather" in favour of vaccination. Undecided pollees constituted 7.3 percent of the surveyed group.

Legend from left: definitely yes, rather yes, rather not, definitely not, don't know; Blue: October, orange: November



Porównanie badania z października z sondażem z listopada /RMF FM

Romania

Attitude towards vaccination

https://www.rfi.ro/social-126429-studiu-doar-6-din-10-romani-s-ar-vaccina-anti-covid

According to an Ipsos study (done on 20.000 people from 28 countries) 57% of Romanians would be **willing to vaccinate against COVID-19**. The percentage is higher in men (68%), while only 49% of women are pro vaccination.

Amongst young people (16-24) and people over the age of 55 the pro vaccination percentage is higher (66%), while only 51% of people between these ages would agree to take the vaccine.

Accessibility and attitude towards the vaccine

https://www.digi24.ro/stiri/actualitate/sondaj-unul-din-doi-romani-considera-ca-tratamentul-pentru-covid-19-nu-e-suficient-de-accesibil-in-romania-1400520

https://www.rfi.ro/social-127333-sondaj-21-dintre-romani-s-ar-vaccina-impotriva-covid-19-daca-serul-ar-fi-disponibil

According to a study done by the Larics Sociological Research Centre (25 September - 16 October 2020) over half of respondents (51.3%) consider that the **treatment for COVID-19 is rather inaccessible.**

Also, 37% of Romanians believe that the country had to fend for itself in fighting the coronavirus pandemic, while over **35% believe that the country has received the most help from the European Union.**

Lastly, in the case of discovering a **vaccine for COVID-19, 21% of Romanians would be vaccinated if the serum were available**, a third would choose to be immunized only if they heard that there were no side effects and 8% would like to know more information to make the vaccination decision.

Attitude towards the EU during the pandemic

https://www.radioresita.ro/407841/sondaj-de-opinie-inscop-research-romanii-sunt-de-parere-ca-uniunea-europeana-a-ajutat-romania-in-combaterea-epidemiei-de-coronavirus

According to a INSCOP study (17-25 October, 1500 respondents), almost two thirds of Romanians believe that the **EU has helped Romania in fighting the coronavirus**. Furthermore, almost 60% of **respondents trust the EU**, while 56.9% are optimistic about its future.

Slovenia

Tenth of Slovenians visiting other households amid epidemic

Valicon conducted a survey which looked into whom Slovenians trusted the most regarding Covid-19 developments and information. The public still places **the greatest trust in experts**, with Aleš Rozman, director of the Golnik University Clinic of Respiratory and Allergic Diseases, and infectious diseases specialist Mateja Logar deemed most trust-worthy among them, both having gained 61 points of 100.

Some **12% do not trust anyone** of the 19 listed public figures, down by 3 percentage points compared to the first assessment in spring.

The survey, titled #NewNormal, was conducted between 27 and 29 November.

Almost 55% disapprove of govt job in POP TV poll

60% of those questioned in the Mediana poll commissioned by the commercial broadcaster POP TV **support government coronavirus measures**, however nearly 55% do not support the government's work.

As many as 54.7% answered in the negative when asked whether they supported the government's job, against 36.3% who answered in the positive.

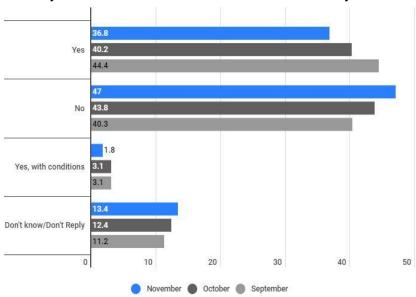
Spain

Number of Spaniards who would not take the vaccine for COVID-19 rises up to 47%; two-thirds believe the coronavirus was created in a laboratory

https://40db.es/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Estudio-sobre-la-crisis-del-coronavirus-III-noviembre-El-Pa%C3%ADs.pdf http://datos.cis.es/pdf/Es3300marMT_A.pdf

According to the monthly survey from the CIS (Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas), the number of **Spaniards who would not immediately take the vaccine after the release of the COVID-19 vaccine has raised from 43.8% up to 47% in just month**. Likewise, the number of people who would take the vaccine immediately after its release has shrunk from 40.2% to 36.8%, and just 1.8% would do it only with guarantees (against 3.1% in October).

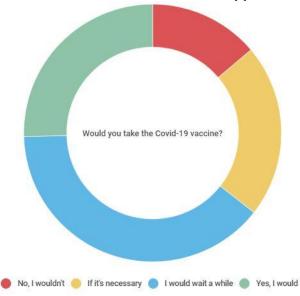
Would you take the vaccine for Covid-19 immediately after its release?



There is a bigger gap with the figures obtained in September, first time when this question was asked, and most of respondents (44.4%) said they would like to be vaccinated immediately after the release of the vaccine against 40.3% who would refuse to do it.

This change in trend is supported by the **40 dB survey for the newspaper "El País"**, published also in mid-November and showing the next figures: just 24.1% said they 'would take the vaccine as soon as possible', 36.9% would prefer to 'wait a while before taking the vaccine', 20.6% 'only would take the vaccine if is strictly necessary', and 13.1% would 'refuse to take the vaccine' in any case.

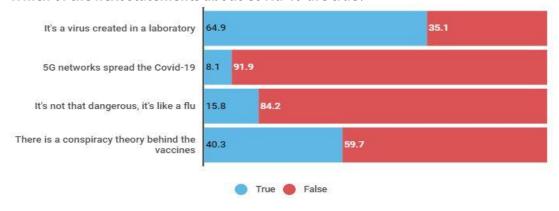
Would you take the Covid-19 vaccine once is approved by the health authorities?



Following this study released on November 15th, there is another particular finding. Up to 64.9% of the respondents (conducted between October 30th and November 6th) believe the coronavirus was **created in a laboratory**, against 35.1% of respondents who refuse this theory.

Also, 40.3% of the respondents believe there is a **conspiracy behind the vaccines**, against 59.7% who don't.

Which of the next statements about Covid-19 are true?

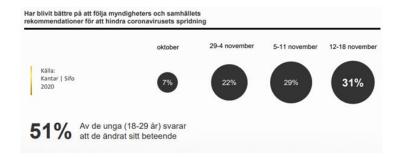


Other conspiracy theories such as 5G networks linked to the propagation of Covid-19 have lower support with only 8.1% who believe it, against 84.2 against. And also 15.8% of the respondents believe that the Covid-19 'is not that dangerous, is like the flu', against 84.2% who don't believe it.

Sweden

Restrictions during the pandemic

31% claim they have improved their way of following the restrictions in order to reduce the contagiousness of covid-19. Among the youth (18-29 years of age), more than half (51 %) claim they have changed their behaviour.

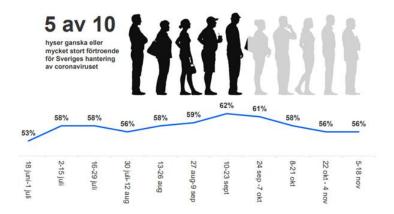


57 % claim their fellow citizens' behaviour during the pandemic is "pretty bad" or "very bad", which is a big increase since September.

Nästan 6 av 10 svarar ganska dåligt eller mycket dåligt på frågan: Överlag, hur skulle du bedöma svenska folkets beteende i kampen mot coronavirusets spridning?

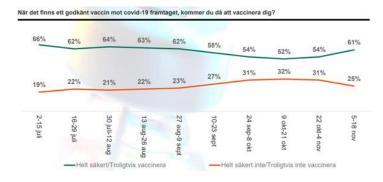


The faith in Sweden's way of handling the pandemic seems consistent. 56 % claim they have "quite a lot" or "a lot" of trust in our strategy.



More people are likely to take the vaccine once it becomes available to the public.

61 % say they would take it and 25 % would not.



Source Kantar/Sifo; DN/Ipsos